

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Serial No.: 09/811,346

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 8-10 (claims 1-9 (sic)) remain in the application after the entry of the above claims amendments. Applicant notes that the originally presented claims inadvertently omitted the designation of claim 7, and assumes that the Examiner has renumbered the claims for this reason. Applicant requests the Examiner to confirm that such renumbering has been effected.

Applicant has amended claims 4-6 and 9, and has also presented new claims 11-32 in further elaboration on the invention set forth in originally presented claims 1-6, 8 and 9, discussed further below with reference to the requirement for restriction. The amendments to claims 4-6 and 9 are not substantive in nature and are presented to improve the grammar and syntax of these claims. No new matter has been introduced. Further, as new claims 11-32 are directed to methods like those of the originally presented claims, further restriction is not believed to be warranted, and accordingly entry and concurrent examination of new claims 11-32 with those of claims 1-6, 8 and 9 is requested.

The amendments made to herein to the claims are clearly indicated in the attachment entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Support for new claims 11-32 is provided throughout the originally filed specification. Specifically, support for claims 11 and 12 is provided at page 5, lines 19-23. Support for claims 13 and 14 is provided at page 5, lines 13-14. Support for claims 15, 20, and 24 is provided at page 6, lines 8-9. Support for claims 16, 17, 21, 22, 25, and 26 is provided at page 6, lines 6-7. Support for claims 18, 19, 27, and 28

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is provided at page 6, lines 3-5. Support for claim 23 is provided at page 4, line 9-14 and page 5, lines 21-23. Support for claim 29 is provided at page 4, line 9-14; page 5, lines 21-23; and page 8, lines 1-4. Support for claims 30-31 is found at page 4, lines 9-14; and page 5, lines 19-23.

This response provides a Substitute Specification, and directions are provided above to replace the originally filed specification with the Substitute Specification herein attached. The replacement specification contains the following changes:

1. Paragraph numbers have been inserted and line numbers have been deleted.
2. The specification has been amended throughout to correct idiomatic and grammatical errors. Such corrections are shown on the marked-up version of the application. See pages 1, and 3-10.
3. Typographical errors throughout the specification have been appropriately corrected. For example, the term interferon alfa has been changed to interferon alpha. See, for example, page 1, line 1 and paragraph 2.
4. For the purposes of continuity, the references have been moved to the end of the specification. See pages 11-16.

No new matter has been introduced into the application by way of these amendments, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the Substitute

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Specification. As indicated earlier, a marked-up version of the specification is also included, showing the changes rendered.

By this action, a requirement for restriction has been made, as between the following claim groups:

Group I - Claims 1-8, drawn to methods of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells, classified in class 424, subclass 85.4.

Group II - Claim 9, directed to a kit comprising retinoid and interferon, classified in class 530, subclass 351.

In accordance with 35 U.S.C. 121, applicant elects herewith to prosecute the claims of Group I, namely claims 1-8 (sic) and newly added claims 11-32, however, with traverse.

Applicant submits that a search of the kit of claim 9, which includes the composition that is used in the methods of Group I, would most likely be within the ambit of the search that would proceed with respect to the latter elected group, so that an undue burden would not be imposed by the conjoint consideration of all of the claims pending herein. Accordingly, withdrawal of the present requirement is believed to be in order, and is requested.

Fees

A check in the amount of \$___ is enclosed, to cover a five-month extension of time, and the extra claims presented by the instant amendment. No other fees are believed to be warranted, however, should this be an error,

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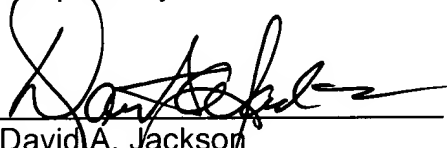
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authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment or to credit any overpayment.

Conclusion

It is submitted, therefore, that the claims are in condition for allowance. No new matter has been introduced. Allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited. In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



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ENCLOSURES: Version of Claims to Show Mark-Ups
Substitute Specification (Clean Copy)
Substitute Specification (Marked-up Copy)

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

A substitute specification including amendments has been prepared and is enclosed, and a marked-up copy is attached hereto.

Claims 4-6 and 9 have been amended as follows.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein lipid carrier particles comprise all-trans retinoic acid, lipid, and a triglyceride: wherein a [and the] molar ratio of retinoid to lipid is at least about 15:85; [where] the triglyceride is at least about 15% by weight of the composition[.]; and [where] the composition is stable in an aqueous environment.

5. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 comprising administering said retinoid composition in at least one dose [doses administered] over a period of at least one-half hour.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 [comprising administering] wherein said retinoid composition is administered at a frequency no greater than [of] about every other day [or less frequent].

9. (Amended) A method of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells comprising co-timely exposing cancerous cells to: a) a therapeutically effective amount of a composition which comprises at least one interferon and [further co-timely exposing of said cancerous cells to] b) a therapeutically effective amount of a retinoid, wherein said retinoid is associated with lipid carrier particles.